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WHERE WOMEN VOTE

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*** [NON-PARTY.

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[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]

Notes and News.

Lord Salisbury's Bill.

Lord Salisbury's Bill, which has passed its second reading in the House of Lords, and may enter this week upon its committee stage, aims at the same object as the Government's Bill for a new Register, namely, to put back on the Register sailors, soldiers, and munition workers who have lost their votes through war service, and also to place on the Register men who were in process of qualifying for the vote, and have been unable to complete the term of qualification for the same reason. It also provides machinery for enabling men on active service to record the vote thus recovered.

Lord Selborne, in his speech in favour of the Bill, made it clear that he only gave it his support because it contained no provision for widening the basis of the Franchise; if it had done so, he would have insisted on the inclusion of women. Should the Bill in its present state make its way from the House of Lords to the House of Commons, it seems highly probable that it will there terminate an inglorious career. The House of Commons has already condemned the Government Bill, which is at present disgraced and in hiding; it is very unlikely that the voices which were raised against its proposals from all sides of the House will be stilled if a precisely similar measure is recommended by the Upper House. Nothing less than a full measure of reform can now give satisfaction to anyone either in Parliament or in the country.

Public Right.

"By the victory of the Allies," said Mr. Asquith in a recent speech, "the enthronement of public right here in Europe will pass from the domain of ideals and of aspirations into that of concrete and achieved realities." And he proceeded to define the meaning of the phrase "Public Right" as an equal level of opportunity and of independence as between small States and great States, *as between the weak and the strong*, and to speak of a freer and a fuller life to countless millions who, by their efforts and their sacrifices, maintain the progress and enrich the inheritance of humanity. If this is indeed to be the result of the European war the women's cause is already assured, and there can be no reason for delay in taking the necessary steps to turn at least this ideal and aspiration into a concrete and achieved reality. Women have asked for nothing more than an equal level of opportunity and independence, a freer and a fuller life. Let Englishmen, if they are truly determined that these are the objects of the present war, take the first step where it can be taken, within their own country, and let there be no further hesitation or delay in instituting a reform which can be accomplished without bloodshed and without violence.

An Austrian Tribute to Women Voters.

For some days, apparently, the Central European Press was under the impression that Mr. Hughes was elected President of the United States. *The Neue Free Presse*, as reported by *The Times*, is said to have rejoiced openly over the supposed change of President. The Vienna paper actually congratulates the woman voter on Mr. Wilson's defeat! "Conscience has spoken, and perhaps its voice has become more audible because millions of women took part in the election. It is a pleasure to think that American mothers remembered the sorrows of their European sisters, and that in the news of the election of Hughes we can hear the beating of women's hearts. The goddess of sympathy and pity has gone to the poll."

It is unfortunate that in Mittel-Europa "the goddess of sympathy and pity" has never had the slightest chance of getting her vote recorded.

Women's Suffrage in Holland.

The subject of Women's Suffrage has been debated in the Dutch Parliament on the motion of the Government to so amend the constitution that Women's Suffrage should not be impossible. It is not supposed to alter the constitution so as to enfranchise women, but to remove the previous bar to their enfranchisement. The Socialist Democratic leader, Mr. Troelstra, in his speech, declared that the Socialists stood for Manhood and Womanhood Suffrage, but as it seems unlikely that Parliament could be induced to pass such a large measure, the Socialists would support the limited proposals of the Government, and hoped that, having secured Manhood Suffrage, Womanhood Suffrage would follow later. Dutch Suffragists feel that by this speech M. Troelstra has sacrificed the women's cause. By announcing beforehand that Socialists would support the Government's proposals to extend the Suffrage to men while not enfranchising women, they have removed the one incentive which would have moved the Government to include women.

The Second Chamber, discussing the revision of the Constitution, adopted an article by which women will be eligible as members of the States-General. Women will, therefore, if these measures become law, be able to stand for election, though they will still be unable to cast votes.

Yucatan Grants Women's Suffrage.

According to information received from Mexico, in San Francisco, says *The Woman's Journal*, women's suffrage has lately been granted in the State of Yucatan, as the result of a woman's congress recently held in Merida, at which 3,000 women were present. The population of Yucatan in 1910 was about 337,000.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier for Women's Suffrage.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in a recent speech, is reported to have announced that he had been converted to Woman's Suffrage since the war; and he felt convinced that every province in Canada, except Quebec, "which was too conservative," would give political recognition to women when the war was over.

The New Board of Pensions.

On November 14th, Mr. Arthur Henderson explained the scheme for a new Pensions Authority. Hitherto there have been four different authorities housed in buildings as far apart as Chelsea and Baker Street, all dealing with questions connected with pensions. The result has been overlapping, confusion, and delay; with a growing feeling on the part of the public that the pensions question is being mismanaged.

The new Board will take over the work connected with disability pensions paid from public funds, including:—

(1) Those of the Chelsea Commissioners with regard to the grant and administration of disability pensions other than in-pensions.

(2) Those of the Army Council with respect to pensions and grants to ex-soldiers, widows, and dependents, other than service pensions.

(3) Those of the Statutory Committee so far as they relate to the supplementing of pensions and grants otherwise than out of voluntary funds.

Women will, therefore, be directly concerned with the new Board under (2) and (3).

Separation allowances, which will, of course, expire at the end of the war or on demobilisation, will be paid as before by the War Office through local Post-offices.

The Navy is not included in the scheme except as regards supplementation, and it is not proposed that the new Board shall take over the Army Service and Campaign pensions.

Local Committees, of which there are already some 300, are to be utilised, and Mr. Henderson expressed a hope that a satisfactory arrangement would be made for improving their position still further. The more he went into the question the more convinced he became that after proper co-ordination for questions of principle and policy had been arranged, the more the work was carried out through properly constituted and thoroughly representative committees the more efficiently it would be done.

It will be remembered that these local committees are obliged to have women among their members. A circular sent out to County Boroughs recommends that women shall form from one-fifth to one-quarter of the whole Committee.

The Order 447 Trap for Women.

We have frequently pointed out that the Orders issued by the Ministry of Munitions with regard to women's wages are in many cases not enforced. A glaring instance of this was brought forward in Parliament last week by Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck. He asked whether the Minister of Munitions was aware that Perilli's Cable Company, Southampton—a controlled firm employing about 200 women and girls—was paying women of eighteen years of age and upwards 2d. an hour during the first three months of employment, 2¼d. during the second three months, and 2¾d. after the completion of three years' service, with no further advance, the average weekly wage of the women employed being 10s. 10d., rising to 13s. in the case of those working overtime. He also enquired whether the payment of such rates in a controlled establishment had the sanction of the Ministry, and if not, what steps would be taken for dealing with them. Dr. Addison admitted the facts, and stated that these rates were fixed as minima in February of this year as an award, "but in view of the changed conditions the matter was being taken up by his Department."

These women have been worked at a starvation wage for nine months, with the connivance of the Ministry of Munitions. Yet only now is "the matter being taken up." What of Order 447, which lays down that women of eighteen years of age and upwards engaged on munition work of a class which prior to the war was not recognised as men's work are to be paid at the rate of 4d. per hour? This Order is dated July 6th, yet late in November Dr. Addison states that "the question of applying it to all establishments of this class is now under consideration." These orders might have been deliberately drafted to lull the public into the comfortable belief that all women employed on munition work are being paid at least a bare living wage! At any rate, they have to some extent succeeded in misleading opinion, and it is therefore of great importance that the frequent violations of these Orders should be made public. Women are being asked to come forward in their thousands to train for munition work, and they will doubtless do so; but let them insist on a fair rate of payment and not allow themselves to be defrauded.

No Loophole for Evasion.

A promise was recently made by the Ministry of Munitions to a deputation of women workers that a statement would be issued on November 15th, respecting the amendment of Circular L2. The consideration of this circular in full detail has not yet been finally completed, but a statement has been issued with regard to the time-rates payable to women of eighteen years and over employed on work customarily done by men. These are to be paid £1 for a full week's work of forty-eight hours. Where the working week exceeds forty-eight hours, additional payment will be made at the rate of an extra 6d. for every additional hour in the working week, not exceeding fifty-four hours. Overtime is to be payable after the expiration of the ordinary working week for women in the establishment in question. Hitherto, women working a forty-eight hours' week have often been paid less than the £1 ordered in L2, on the pretext that longer working hours are customary in the particular district; even while men in the same factory have been paid overtime when the forty-eight hours has been exceeded. It is to be hoped that the wording of the new Circular, when issued, will leave no loophole for evasion, but the clause in the preliminary statement as to overtime being payable "after the expiration of the ordinary working week for women" seems to offer an excuse to the ingenious employer, unless a precise stipulation is added that forty-eight hours shall be regarded as the maximum "ordinary week."

A further amendment, says the statement, will also be introduced providing that women of eighteen years and over employed on time on work of a class customarily done by semi-skilled men, or on work of a specially laborious and responsible nature, or where special circumstances exist, shall be paid according to the nature of the work and the ability of the women, but in no case less than £1 a week. "The circular in full will be issued as soon as possible, but in accordance with the last-mentioned provision, special representations have already received consideration."

It is very necessary that a minimum rate should be established, not only for women engaged on munition work, but for the many branches of industry into which women are entering.

Irish Women Teachers' War Bonus.

As a result of the various protests made against the unfairness of paying a lower war bonus to women national school teachers in Ireland than is paid to men, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has decided, after consultation with the Chief Secretary for Ireland, "that the position of women teachers is such as to justify the payment to them of war bonus at the same rates as have already been announced in the case of the men teachers."

The Treasury still refuses any concession to the women employed by the Government in Great Britain. "Is there no British M.P.," asks *The New Statesman*, "willing to fight for these women as the Irish Parliamentary Party has known how to fight for the Irish school-teachers?"

"The Common Cause" "Commercial Chemistry" Scholarships.

At the beginning of the year we made an appeal to our readers to raise a sum of money to enable young women to take up a course of post-graduate study. The response was most cordial and generous; the sum of £100 for two scholarships was exceeded, and we have in hand about £150.

Through the kindness of the press, paragraphs were very widely disseminated, calling the attention of advanced students to the scholarships offered by readers of The Common Cause. A small committee was formed to consider candidates' claims; three women students, admirably qualified, had presented themselves, and the awards were made, when the committee were confronted with a quite unexpected development! One candidate after another announced that she had accepted a post, and would be unable to avail herself of the scholarship; and two other candidates under consideration found that the amount of the exhibition was not sufficient to enable them to take up the piece of research which they had in view. Under these circumstances, it seemed best to the committee to hold over the sum subscribed, and to offer a larger grant to *two* duly qualified women-students. It has therefore been decided to offer two scholarships of about £75 each to women already in possession of a science degree, or its equivalent, who desire to take a post-graduate course in some special subject, with a view to taking up commercial chemistry. The fact that previous candidates obtained posts in quick succession is, we think, a very encouraging one. Further particulars will be announced in The Common Cause.

Where Women Vote.

Returning from a strenuous six months spent in investigating political conditions in the States where woman suffrage prevails the thought always uppermost in my mind stands out even more vividly than ever before—How can the people of the East be made to understand the true situation where the franchise has been granted to women?

Above all else one notices the universal acceptance of it as absolute and final. I did not find a man or woman, even though lukewarm or opposed, who believed there ever would be an attempt to repeal the amendment. In California, the only State where, according to the Eastern "antis," this will be done, and where it is very easy to obtain an initiative petition for anything, no such move ever has been made except immediately after the amendment was adopted five years ago, and it met with so little success that it was quickly dropped. I said to a woman who is a member of a State Commission and the leader among the women's Trade Unions: "Don't you think that if a Prohibition Amendment should be carried this fall there will be an effort by the liquor interests to get rid of woman suffrage?" "My God!" was her startled answer, "how can you suggest such a thing?" Another well-informed woman member of a State Commission said: "There would be just as much likelihood of repealing man suffrage. Even those women who organised to defeat it before election would vote against its repeal."

How Women's Influence is Used.

Whenever I asked this question I was made to feel as a tenderfoot does among a lot of cowboys, but I persisted. When I put it to an official of the Anti-Saloon League, he replied: "No, if a Prohibition Amendment is carried it will be due just as much to men's votes as women's votes, and they wouldn't get rid of it by disfranchising women. This could not be done anyhow." The general sentiment seems to be that California has settled the matter and it would be a calamity to have it reopened. Woman suffrage has not fulfilled the hopes of the most optimistic; it has not verified the forebodings of the pessimistic, but the consensus of opinion is that it has worked no injury except to what ought to be injured, and that its effects on the whole have been distinctly beneficial to the State and to the women themselves. The latter are more self-respecting and self-reliant, take more interest in civic affairs and have a broader vision along all lines. They have not initiated reforms so much as they have supported the reforms inaugurated by public-spirited men. These men know that in any movement for the benefit of the schools, the public health, or any form of social welfare they can count on the co-operation of the women, backed by their votes.

This is true of all the equal suffrage States. There are almost innumerable progressive statutes, ordinances, and measures of various kinds, that are largely due to the majority vote of women added to the minority vote of the men who desired them. The most noticeable feature and the one which perhaps calls for greatest emphasis is the matter-of-fact way in which the question has adjusted itself to the life of the community. At the first elections women casting their votes are a novelty, but, afterwards, it is not any more so than the voting of men. There are literally no instances in any of the States of trouble at the polls, of domestic discord, of any events out of the ordinary because of woman suffrage. The newspapers that opposed it invariably acknowledge their mistake after seeing it in practice. Individuals look sheepish when reminded of their opposition, and change the subject. People in the States where it prevails have a feeling of disgust and resentment at the continual "investigation" by outsiders.

Where the Opposition Comes From.

The experience of all the Western States with woman suffrage has been the same, from Wyoming, where it has existed forty-seven years, to Nevada and Montana, where it has been in operation only two years; and it will be no different in the Eastern States. It used to be feared that it might cause some trouble in the very large cities, and the leaders of the movement themselves felt some anxiety on this point, but the experiment in Chicago has dissipated all fear. There could not have been a more exacting test, and the voting of women in this city of several million people of all nationalities has been as free from objectionable features of any kind as it has been in San Francisco and Los Angeles, with over half-a-million each, or Seattle and Denver with a few hundred thousand. It has been thoroughly tested in all possible ways, and it has stood the test in every instance. If it had not done so it never could have become what it is to-day—a national political issue. Could its acceptance be based on its record, its merits, and its justice, it would be adopted in every State where it is passed upon by the electors; but, unfortunately, this is not the case. Because this power in the hands of women has been used to safeguard the welfare of the home and family; because by means of it those who work outside the home have been able to secure advantages for themselves, it has had to meet the antagonism of corporate interests, of vicious interests that menace home, family, and womanhood, and of political interests that would be imperilled by this new force in the electorate, largely non-partisan, independent, uncontrollable.

This is a combination that, operating through secret ballots, cannot be overcome, and added to it in the case of woman suffrage is the ingrained prejudice among one class of men against changing the ancient sphere of women, and the brutal determination among another class to keep them in a subordinate position. This combination is much more powerful in the East than in the West, and, while there has been a marvellous advance in favourable public sentiment in the eastern half of the country, there has been no practical gain except in the partial franchise granted by the Illinois Legislature. This, undoubtedly, would be taken away if the voters of that State could get a chance to pass on it. The men of Chicago would hasten to follow the example set last November by the men of New York City, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Boston, and every large city in the four Eastern States where a woman suffrage amendment was voted on.

The Need for a National Suffrage Amendment.

It is this situation which has convinced the women of the East and Middle West that they must obtain from Congress the authority to take their case out of the hands of the powerful and unscrupulous combination working through this mass of prejudiced, irresponsible, and venal voters with their secret ballots. They have carried on this unequal struggle for half a century, and now by a practical demonstration of Woman Suffrage in twelve States they have answered favourably every definite objection to it. They consider that they are fully justified in demanding an opportunity to submit their question to the Legislatures of the various States where it can have a fair discussion and, what is still more important, an open ballot. A tour of the Western States, where millions of women have voted this Fall, has indicated beyond all doubt that these women are in complete sympathy with this demand for a National Suffrage Amendment, and will render all the assistance possible. They do not wish to be disfranchised themselves should it become necessary to reside outside of the Western States.

Ida Husted Harper.

RESOLUTION OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

The following resolution has been signed by members of the Consultative Committee of the Constitutional Women's Suffrage Societies:—

"That the undersigned societies aim at securing a real equality of voting rights between men and women. They consider it urgently necessary in the interests of the whole country that women shall be enfranchised in time to take part in the election of the Parliament which will decide questions of reconstruction arising out of the war."—Signatories:—

Maud Selborne, Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association.
Eva McLaren, Liberal Women's Suffrage Federation.
J. Spring Rice, Irish Women's Suffrage Federation.
Herbert Jacobs, Men's League for Women's Suffrage.
Millicent Garrett Fawcett, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
Ada Chapman, New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage.
Henry W. Nevinson, United Suffragists.
Fflorens Roch, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.
E. Lincoln, Church League for Women's Suffrage.
Jane E. Strickland, Free Church League for Women's Suffrage.
Frances Balfour, Scottish Churches' League for Women's Suffrage.
Winifred Mayo, Actresses' Franchise League.
H. C. I. Gwynne-Vaughan, London Graduates Union for Women's Suffrage.
Esther B. Roper, B.A., National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society.
Frances H. Simson, Scottish University Women's Suffrage Union.
Jane Cobden Sanderson, Women's Tax Resistance League.

Reply to the Anti-Suffrage Manifesto.

The following reply to the Anti-Suffragist Manifesto is being circulated to the Press:—

Sir,—A manifesto has been issued by those who are opposed to the enfranchisement of women. It contains three statements to which we wish to reply.

The first is the statement that " for all practical purposes it may be said that there are only two alternatives. One is to maintain the existing law. . . The other is to sanction universal Suffrage for all men and all women."

It is admitted by all parties that the " existing law " cannot in any case be maintained, since it would have the effect of disfranchising all men who are absent on service at home or abroad and all workers who have changed their residence to meet the demands of war work. The attempt to meet this difficulty by a Bill altering the terms of registration, but leaving unchanged the basis of the franchise, has apparently broken down.

A measure must therefore be introduced before the next General Election which, to a greater or less extent, will alter the existing basis of the franchise.

How far the alteration will go cannot at present be determined, since the Speaker's Conference has been appointed for the special purpose of drawing up recommendations upon the form which this alteration should take. Our own attitude in the matter was made clear by the Prime Minister on August 14th. Speaking of the representations he had received from Suffragists, Mr. Asquith said: " If we are going to bring in a new class of electors, on whatever ground of State Service, they (*i.e.*, Suffragists) point out—and we cannot possibly deny their claim—that during this war the women of this country have rendered as effective service in the prosecution of the war as any other class of the community."

The second point is this. Among those who have hitherto opposed Women's Suffrage, there are some who, by their own admission, recognise " that the experience gained during the war has introduced some new elements into the case which will require careful consideration." We are probably right in assuming that among these " new elements " are the changed position of women in industry and the number of women who, owing to the loss of men in the war, are now heads of wholly unrepresented households.

But in the " careful consideration " of the industrial position of women which will be necessary after the war, not only in the country, but also in Parliament, it is essential that women themselves should be heard. Mr. Asquith has emphasised the urgency of this point, and it is obvious that this can only be done by including women in any franchise measure which is passed by the present Parliament.

The third statement to which we wish to reply is that " the present Parliament has no moral right to deal with the matter." If the present Parliament has the moral right to alter the basis of the franchise and to bring in a new class of voters, it has the moral right to include women as well as men.—We are, sir, etc.,

(Signed)

MARIE WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE.
ROSE MACAULAY.
JULIA CHANCE.
SYBIL DE V. BRASSEY.
K. JEX-BLAKE.
MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.
N. ADLER.
BEATRICE ROCHDALE.
FLORA MURRAY, M.D., D.P.H.
L. GARRETT ANDERSON, M.D.
PHILIPPA G. FAWCETT.
LOUISE CREIGHTON.
LAURA E. RIDDING.
JANE ELLEN HARRISON.
ELIZABETH ROBINS.
LAURA ABERCONWAY.
LILY MONTAGU.
JANE WALKER, M.D.
BEATRICE HARRADEN, B.A.
MAUD SELBORNE.
HENRIETTA JEX-BLAKE.
KATE COURTNEY OF PENWITH.
J. SPRING RICE.
DOROTHEA IRVING.
MARY SCHARLIEB, M.D., M.S., LONDON.
KATHARINE T. WALLAS.
M. S. REEVES.
FLORENCE G. BARRETT.
FRANCES BALFOUR.
MARIE BELLOC LOWNDES.
ANNIE LEIGH BROWNE.
CLEMENTINA BLACK.
EVA McLAREN.
BEATRICE WEBB.
MARY CHOLMONDELEY.
BETTY BALFOUR.
M. TUKE.
E. PENROSE.
ELEANOR RATHBONE.
MARGARET ASHTON.
B. A. CLOUGH.
A. COWDRAY.
J. M. STRACHEY.
HELEN BOSANQUET, LL.D.
EDITH LYTTLETON.
ELEANOR MILDRED SIDGWICK.
ISABELLA MACDONALD, M.D.
MARY SINCLAIR.
MARGARET McMILLAN.
ELEANOR ACLAND.

The following letter has also been circulated:—

Sir,—We have observed a letter signed by a number of prominent Anti-Suffragists which declares, in effect, their continued opposition, at any rate at the present time, to any extension of the franchise to women. We have always recognised that there were serious objections to raising controversial questions during the war. At the same time, if the franchise of this country is to be remodelled on new principles and a large number of male voters introduced who are not qualified under the existing laws, actually or potentially, we feel that it would be a very grave injustice to women that their case should not be considered at the same time.

There must not be a repetition of what has too frequently occurred in the past—namely, the application of a rule which enables the electoral interests of men to be considered while those of women are disregarded.—Yours, etc.,

ROBERT CECIL.
SELBORNE.
ARTHUR HENDERSON.
F. D. ACLAND.
LYTTON.
A. F. LONDON.
COWDRAY.
C. N. NICHOLSON.
J. R. CLYNES.
LEIF JONES.
C. OXON.
WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE.
FARRER.
JAMES YOXALL.
J. T. AGG-GARDNER.
T. WING.
J. OWEN JACOBSEN.
J. H. THOMAS.
F. BENNETT GOLDNEY.
H. BENTINCK.
J. KING.
PHILIP SNOWDEN.
ERNEST CRAIG.
J. LICHFIELD.
E. LINCOLN.
J. KENSINGTON.
COURTNEY OF PENWITH.
L. WORTHINGTON EVANS.
T. G. TICKLER.
W. C. ANDERSON.
J. M. HOGGE.
EDWARD GOULDING.
F. LEVERTON HARRIS.
FRANCIS McLAREN.
NORVAL HELME.
A. H. MARSHALL.
E. T. JOHN.
SWIRE SMITH.
ARTHUR SHERWELL.
ROWLAND E. PROTHERO.
A. W. BARTON.
C. E. PRICE.
J. O'GRADY.
J. HEREFORD.
J. R. ROFFEN.
E. WINTON.

Lord Grey of Falloden, whose signature has not been given to the above, has renewed his assurance that whenever or however the question of extending the basis of the franchise is dealt with, he will, as far as his personal influence can be used, contend that enfranchisement of women should be considered and included.

Some Press Comments.

Commenting in a leading article on November 18th on the memorial recently issued by opponents of Women's Suffrage, *The Manchester Guardian* says:—

" The main ground stated for this opposition—apart from the old grounds of opposition, which the experience of the war has in most candid minds removed—is that 'the present Parliament has no moral right to deal with the matter,' not having been elected on that issue. But this Parliament, it may be observed, has done a good many things which it was not elected to do, including the not unimportant one of prolonging its own existence beyond the period permitted by the Constitution. No sort of difficulty is apparently felt by the objectors on constitutional grounds to the enactment of manhood suffrage, or, what is a good deal more revolutionary, a military service franchise, by this present Parliament, and their scruples are entirely confined to the possible admission of women to a share in the reward of war service. It is a poor and shabby policy, and we do not believe the country, whose feeling in this matter is generous, not mean, will sanction it. For let there be no mistake. This attack is meant to be deadly, and, under the thin plea of constitutional legalism, it is designed, and if successful will accomplish its design, to destroy all possibility of the enfranchisement of women for a generation. For if we are to have manhood suffrage, as is proposed, we must also have redistribution of seats. The whole question of the basis of representation will be settled for our time. You cannot repeat such upheavals every few years—the last was in 1885—and the whole matter would be settled with the women safely left out. Whether the present Parliament, which is now, as Lord Parmoor has pointed out, no longer a constitutional but merely a statutory body, is competent to undertake this supremely important work is another question, but what is certain is that, if it is competent to introduce manhood suffrage and to determine the redistribution of seats, it is competent also to enfranchise women. The women at least will be of that opinion, and they will see to it."

The Daily Graphic ridicules the argument of the Anti-Suffrage Manifesto, that the present Parliament has no moral right to deal with the question of Women's Suffrage, and that, therefore, this question ought to be excluded from the purview of the Speaker's Committee which is dealing with the problems of Parliamentary reform.

" With all respect to the distinguished persons who have signed the Manifesto, we must be excused for regarding it as a sort of last kick by people who cannot bring their minds to accept accomplished changes. Women's Suffrage is already established over a large part of the United States and over the whole of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Dominion of New Zealand. We believe there are very few people who will deny that it has been earned in this country during the past twenty-eight months."

The Call to the Elder Women.

By Lady M'Dougall.

The war is bringing many changes into our lives. Everywhere we see young women and girls employed in work which in pre-war times was essentially a man's job. Women are working well, and really earn their improved wages. Comfort is brought within the reach of a larger number of working-class families. But there is small benefit to many of the little children of these households—they need the loving care of a watchful mother day and night—they require well-cooked food at regular hours and a sufficiency of sleep. But mother and sisters are so busy bringing in money that the home life goes to the wall.

Far worse, however, is the condition of our growing boys and girls from fourteen to sixteen years of age, who spend their leisure hours as they please, and are independent of parental control.

The open spaces of London—its parks, commons, and those of other great towns—are thronged by boys and girls, who go about in couples, and at certain hours by day and night these young people—many of them under eighteen years of age—may be seen lying on the grass, locked in each other's embrace. Girls of all classes hang about all day long outside the entrances to barracks and camps, waiting to pick acquaintance with the soldiers, many of them married men, far from wife, children, and the restraining influence of family life.

Now, who can stop this flood of corruption? It is not our young Church workers who can tackle it. Special Constables and the Police do what they can, and are a great help, but it is essentially Women who are needed—elderly women; mothers and grandmothers, with love in their hearts and good common-sense in their heads. Did not St. Paul exhort the "aged women to be teachers of good things"? Long have we sat by the fireside knitting comforts for our soldiers, sailors, and mine-sweepers; we have stitched and prepared bandages and splints for the hospitals. More is required of us. Our sons and grandsons are in the trenches fighting and dying to save England's liberties; we must arise and leave the comfortable fireside to save England's youth. Shall we alone be slackers? Are our years and our comforts to be our chief consideration when the nation needs the aid of every praying and thinking woman.

Hyde Park is being patrolled every afternoon and evening for several months, and already this centre of West End vice is less evil. These good women who are constantly there are making a more wholesome atmosphere, and the worst things are prevented. All places patrolled *regularly* by good women become safe. The patrols are known as friends to honest working girls, and they are feared by evil-doers of both sexes.

But you will say—How can we do these things? This work requires tact, patience, experience, courage. This is perfectly true, but if you are really in earnest, you may learn how to become a good patrol after two weeks' study. A patrol leader will walk out with each patrol and teach her what to do and what to avoid, when to speak and when to be silent. This work is preventive—the patrol is not a rescue worker, though she knows enough of the work to be able to direct a girl in trouble where to go. She learns the addresses of Girls' Clubs, Friendly Societies, Girl Guides; she knows of hostels and decent lodgings; she finds out the rate of wages in factories and shops and other places of employment. Her object is to befriend the girls, to introduce them to clubs, safe and desirable surroundings, and in a fortnight a large number of women can learn all this and much more from an experienced organiser.

There are at present so few patrols that it is impossible to visit many needful areas; but if every congregation contributes the help of its best women several times a week, the face of England will be changed.

It is within our power to decline this burden—to continue to sit by our fireside—to refuse to come up to the help of the Lord against the Mighty. But let us rather rejoice to be counted worthy to be Fellow Workers with the Son of God, Who did not come into this world for any small thing, but to redeem us from every form of evil.

When women give themselves up to follow Christ and to train their own children for Him and to befriend the tempted boys and girls of their own districts, this evil shall disappear from our midst.

Apply for directions to the Patrol Committee, National Union of Women Workers, Parliament Mansions, Westminster, S.W.

Xmas Gift Suggestions

from

Peter Robinson's

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS will this year, more than ever before, take the form of practical articles, and our assortments of Gift-goods have been specially arranged with this fact in view. Here are some examples:—

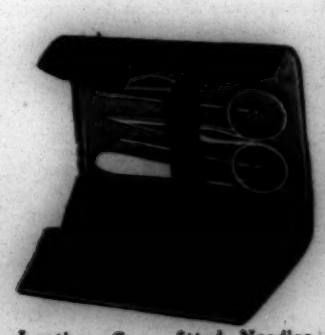
Real Morocco Bag—size 6½ × 5 ins.—fitted Purse. In navy blue, black and violet **10/11**

Treasury Note and Cigarette Case combined. In real pigskin **7/6**

Gentleman's Travelling Brush Set—in solid Leather case—two Satin Wood Military Hair Brushes, Mirror, Comb and Cloth Brush .. **15/11**

Smart Silk Bag, fitted with Mirror, Puff, and Purse division. In green, brown, black or navy Faille **15/6**

Dainty New Evening Bag **16/11**



Leather Case, fitted Needles, Scissors, etc. In green or violet **3/11**

Reliable Safety Razor with five spare blades, in solid pigskin case (as pictured at right)—packs small to fit waistcoat pocket .. **3/11**

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NOTTING HILL HIGH SCHOOL, HOLLAND PARK AVENUE, W.

Wednesday, November 29th, at 3 p.m.

"The Empire and the Cotton Plant"

Lecturer: DE F. PENNEFATHER, Esq., M.P.

In the Chair: LADY SWAYTHLING

Tickets, 2s., to be had at the door, or from the B. W. P. L., 92, Victoria St., S.W.

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(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON),
REGENT'S PARK, N.W.

THE LADY HUGGINS' SCHOLARSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY, value £40 a year for two years, will be awarded in December. It is open to women holding a University Degree, or its equivalent, and must by used for RESEARCH WORK IN A SOCIOLOGICAL SUBJECT.

Applications should be made at once to
THE PRINCIPAL: MISS M. J. TUKE, M.A.

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Caxton Hall, Westminster.
On DECEMBER 7th, 8th, 9th.
Arranged by the Workers' Suffrage Federation.
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MODEL ELECTION. Men and WOMEN voters. Men and WOMEN candidates.
PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION & COMPETITION. Competitors invited to send in by Nov. 25th. Entrance fee 2/6. Judged by E. O. HOPPE, F.R.P.S.
CONCERT: Miss Marie Levinskaja, the Russian Pianist. Artiste from Margaret Morris School of Dance, and others.
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REFRESHMENTS AND TEAS.
Further particulars and Tickets from 400, Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

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The Problem of Rescue Work is beset by many pitfalls, but in one case at least a happy solution has been found. Early in 1913, a school of hand-weaving was started with the object of developing the artistic powers of girls of the upper and middle classes requiring a fresh start in life.

The Organiser of this school, desiring to co-operate with those engaged in rescue work by offering a new opening to better-class girls, has found by over three years' experience that hand-weaving is specially suited to their needs.

The chief need at present is a Hostel where the weavers may live until they are sufficiently skilled to be financially independent. A suitable house is being sought but Annual Subscriptions to the amount of £450 are urgently needed to maintain such a house which will receive, not only the girls, but also their babies. Inquiries and subscriptions should be addressed to—

Miss SKRINE,
The Weaving Studios,
6, Denmark St., W.C.

or to

The Treasurer,
Mrs. GLYNNE WILLIAMS,
7, Berkeley House, Hay Hill, W.

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12 x 10	5/9	1/6

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All-metal " " 4/6 "

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All Business Communications *to be addressed to The Manager,* The Common Cause, *14, Great Smith St., Westminster, S.W., and all* Advertisements *must reach the Office not later than first post on Wednesday. Advertisement representatives, S. R. Le Mare and Miss Frances L. Fuller (West End).*

"Further Consideration."

A manifesto has recently been issued, over a few familiar Anti-Suffragist signatures, putting it on record that whatever the present Conference now sitting to consider the subject may decide to recommend, they (the signatories) have made up their minds beforehand that they are not going to be influenced by the report. The tone of the "Opponents of Female Suffrage" may be said, however, to be more moderate in this document than in many of the effusions to which we are accustomed. They do not insist, for instance, with the usual vehemence that, because they belong to a body infinitesimally small compared with the great Suffrage organisations, that they are therefore entitled in some mysterious way to represent all the women of Great Britain remaining outside those bodies. They appeal, almost pathetically, for further consideration; for "mature consideration" over and beyond the deliberations of the Speaker's Conference; for consideration to last until the next General Election under "normal circumstances" (whatever and whenever these may be); for four, five, ten, or fifteen years of consideration until (their opinion) the time is really ripe for a decision. Some among their number who have hitherto opposed Women's Suffrage, are disposed to think that "experience gained during the war has introduced some new elements into the case," but these, again, will require "careful consideration."

On what is this plea for indefinite delay based? On the assertion that "the present Parliament has no moral right to deal with the matter." The present Parliament has, as a matter of fact, dealt with great and important issues, such as Conscription, for which no mandate has been given by the country at a general election. The political enfranchisement of women has been an issue raised repeatedly all over the country, and was raised at the last general election with the result that the great majority of members were returned definitely pledged to support women's suffrage. It is absolutely certain that Women's Suffrage, far from losing, has gained ground since the outbreak of war. Indeed, the admission made in the manifesto corroborates the evidence.

The inference to be drawn is clear. The present House of Commons has more than a "moral right" to admit women to the franchise—it has been positively pledged to this course.

So much for the past, let us look to the future. At present the Government is, as ever, indisposed to tackle the problem of organising women's services for the nation, and everything is left to individual initiative, private enterprise, and to the organisations of public-spirited women already in existence before the war. Methods of coping with the situation may be left for the indefinite "consideration" which commends itself to Anti-Suffragists, but the situation itself is serious and developing fast. "The women already trained are by this time skilled hands," to quote the writer of an article on munition works in *The Times*, "and they can now begin to train others. We must regard the munition works as part of the fighting Army, and not the least important part by any means." Here we have, already called out for a national emergency, armies of women working in a spirit and temper which have convinced large employers of labour that women's suffrage is not merely inevitable, but devoutly to be wished. Greater and greater armies are being recruited from among the volunteers who press for service. The nation has learnt, and even the Government is learning, what Suffragists have always known for a fundamental truth—the equality of man and woman, the interdependence of man and woman, so that neither has any right to claim to be exclusively or in any greater degree a citizen of the State. The bare fact that "conscription for women" can already be discussed, shows the acute need for its complement—the vote. Indefinite delay in granting the Suffrage till a Parliament can be called under "normal circumstances," will not only leave—as we have often pointed out—

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

large numbers of households entirely unrepresented; it will mean that the women of Great Britain will be called upon to fill the places of the absent men, not only as heads of households, but in every department of life, and without the constitutional safeguards which are the heritage of the male Briton.

Our Children—Wage-Earners or Future Citizens.—I.

We hear to-day on every side that children are our chief asset, that never has it been so important that our children should be healthy, strong and well-educated, in order to face the keen competition to be looked for after the War is over. What attitude have we assumed towards the boys and girls who in a few years will be the men and women of the Nation, the parents of the future? Are we doing our utmost from an educational point of view to prepare them for the coming struggle? Are we carefully guarding the health and character of those who have already left school and entered into the Labour Market? After two years of War it is not unfitting to look back and consider what position we have reached to-day. There is a tendency on the part of many intelligent people immediately to complain that the importance of the War is not realised if criticisms of, or suggestions for, the regulation of juvenile employment are advanced. They will urge the immediate needs of the War, and describe as pro-German, or at least, unpatriotic, anyone who ventures to suggest that the exemption of young children from school, or the employment of children over school age on twelve hour day and night shifts, is not a wise policy. They fail to see that the spending of the younger generation before it attains to maturity is the quickest road to national bankruptcy; that the victory, if won to-day, will be barren and useless if those who are to inherit its fruits are enfeebled in health, lacking in education, and of low moral character.

In view of this great need of preparation for after the War how have we treated our school-children?

We find that immediately on the outbreak of War the Farmers' Unions throughout England applied to the Local Educational Authorities for the exemption of children from school to help with the harvest. The Prime Minister, in the House of Commons, made it quite clear that he considered the matter was one which could be dealt with by the Local Authorities. The result was quickly seen in the number of counties granting exemptions; by January 1915, nineteen counties had granted exemptions to school-children from eleven years of age and upwards for agricultural purposes. The feeling in the Local Education Committees and Farmers' Unions as a whole is shown by remarks reported from time to time at various meetings. "Boys have been over-educated far too long." "The physical advantages would counterbalance any little harm the boys might suffer by getting off without the superfluous extras in education;" "Too much education means shortage of labourers;" "The shortage of labour was caused because children were educated above their position."

Anxiety was felt by some members of the House of Commons, and the matter was made the subject of a debate in March, 1915, when the Prime Minister laid down general conditions, the principle being that no children were to be exempted except in cases of great and proved need and when no other form of labour could be obtained

The Bishop of Oxford in a letter to *The Times* wrote strongly, pointing out that it would be a "disastrously reactionary measure if on the excuse of war conditions we slipped into making good what he believed to be a permanent shortage of labour by having recourse to the labour of children who ought to be at school."

Notwithstanding, the number of exemptions increased steadily. By January, 1916, over 8,000 children had been exempted, but even these figures by no means represented the real number of children out of school, for many had gone who had not been exempted. We find in the same month one Educational Authority reducing the age of exemption to ten years, while another, that of N. Wilts, reduced the age to eleven at the request of the Farmers' Union, who, at the same time as they made the request, had passed a resolution that they could not make use of women, because they were not strong enough for the work.

By May 31st, 1916, the number of exemptions was 12,719, an increase of 4,500 in four months. The annual report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education has some startling figures. Sir George Newman states that in 1916 "there were approximately 45,000 fewer children in the age group eleven-twelve years and upwards on the registers than the experience of the last ten years would have led the authorities to expect. Enquiry showed that not less than 15,000 children were excused for agricultural whole-time employment alone, but that even these figures, 45,000 and 15,000 broadly speaking, did not probably fully represent the total loss." A statement such as the above from such an authority must surely give pause for thought to all those interested in the future nation.

As to hours, wages, conditions, and nature of work, comparatively little information is available, but what there is, shows wages to be very low.

In Industry no exemptions were applied for at the beginning of the War, but attempts, successful and unsuccessful, have since been made by various bodies from iron-masters to butchers. The Lancashire cotton mill owners, in conjunction with the spinners and cardroom workers' Unions, made an attempt not only to have the school age lowered, but to impose conditions which would have resulted in a system of indentured child-labour.

Even those children who are still attending school have felt the pressure. Reports from all over England have shown a large increase in the number of children employed out of school hours (in some London schools the increase varies from 20 to 40 per cent.), and applications for labour certificates have risen. From various reports we learn that boys were working forty-six to fifty-four hours per week, *in addition* to school work, for wages of from 2s. 6d. to 3s.; of children of seven years of age employed for wages; of a child of seven and a-half working from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. on week-days, half an hour in the middle of the day, and from 8.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. on Sundays, in all fourteen hours per week, for 2s. Head teachers unanimously agree that the learning capacity of these children is lessened. Too tired to be interested in their school work, they give a merely outward attention in class or are found continually dozing. Can we expect them to profit by their attendance at school? Are they suitably prepared for the post-War contest?

Medical men and women are pointing out almost daily the dangers of overstrain and overwork on growing children, and how already even in the schools, children are feeling the war-strain, and how necessary is extra care, if we are to have a healthy nation. Another danger which is very real is the rebellion against discipline, the increase of unruliness, and of petty crime, which is found among the children on every side. From parents, school teachers, and managers, club-workers, and Juvenile Advisory Committees, the reports are all the same, complaining of increasing roughness, disobedience, truancy, and even absence from home, while the police reports from many big centres show an increase in petty crimes, pilfering, begging, sleeping out at night, wanton damage to parks and gardens.

This has been felt in Germany as well as in England. In Stuttgart alone in the age group twelve to fourteen there was an increase of juvenile crime in 1915 of over 200 per cent., and the group fourteen to sixteen of 100 per cent. This was attributed to the greater neglect of the children during the War, owing to the father's absence at the Front and to the increase of employment among the mothers. These reasons might have been taken from a report written by anyone dealing with children in England. Our protests as to the value of our children have been loud and insistent, the record of our deeds as regards our school children is a silent condemnation.

E. M. SALMOND.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN EXHIBITION.

Those of our readers who have not already been to see the Englishwoman Exhibition at the Central Hall, Westminster, should hasten to do so, as it closes on Saturday evening. While maintaining its nsual high level, the Exhibition has increased in size, and a great variety of interesting work is shown, including textiles, lace, leather work, wood work, bookbinding, and pottery. It is worth while to visit the Exhibition just to see the toys alone. These are both beautiful and ingenious, and represent the beginnings of a trade that should be able to hold its own after the war against foreign competition.

Some of the handwoven fabrics are very fine, and are finding a ready sale among firms that previously bought their wares from abroad. Very beautiful colours and designs are exhibited by the Handloom Industry (Stall 138), and artistic handwoven goods in silk, wool, and cotton, designed by the workers employed, are shown by Miss Inez E. Skrine (Stall 84). The Gas Light and Coke Co. gives a demonstration in the making and baking of all sorts of homemade bread, and the great economy of using gas as a fuel.

We have grown very tired in the past of *le faux luxe*—the article that tries to appear as if it were worth £1 when it is only worth 5s. The Englishwoman Exhibits are refreshingly genuine; some simple and quite moderate in price, others of fine and elaborate workmanship, but none pretending to be what they are not. By cultivating a sounder taste among the general public the Exhibition is doing good service, and it is to be hoped that German substitutes, made to look like much more expensive articles, will never again win such a place in our markets as they held before the war.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
Miss Evelyn Atkinson.
Mrs. Oliver Strachey (Parliamentary)

Hon. Treasurer:
Mrs. Auerbach.
Secretary:
Miss Helen Wright.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4873 Vic.

The Executive Committee have decided that copies of the "Memorandum showing Cause why Women should take Part in the Election of the Parliament which is to deal with Problems of Reconstruction arising out of the War," may be supplied at 9d. each to Secretaries of Societies who are getting up deputations or Memorials to their members of Parliament.

Treasurer's Notes.

In response to an appeal from Headquarters, eighteen societies have either held sales or sent donations to the Funds, and fifteen other societies have promised to hold sales or to send donations. The total already realised and sent to Headquarters amounts to £203 9s. 2d.

The letter from the Treasurer of the Sunderland Society, which we print below, should be put before every Committee of every Society in the Union. It is an unanswerable reply to those individuals who tell us it is impossible to arouse interest or collect money at the present time, and the example of the Sunderland Society should inspire every Committee which is not already making some special effort. Now is the time for all our Societies to bestir themselves, and to rally to our support, for there is every sign that before long Parliament will insist on dealing with the enfranchisement of women. We must be ready to give all the help we can.

Dear Mrs. Auerbach,—We were unable to hold a Jumble Sale, as we were requested, because the Boy Scouts had already arranged to have one. We felt, however, that it was our bounden duty to do something to raise a little money, so we circularised our members and said that they would be called on by members of Committee, who would explain the political situation to them and ask for donations for Headquarters. The result has been most surprising and gratifying.

I have pleasure in enclosing cheque, value £40 10s., for the General Service Fund. Of course, a few members have been very generous, but the satisfactory part is that so *many* members contributed. Out of 168 on our books 115 have contributed, a much larger proportion than ever contributed to an appeal.

With best wishes for the success of the fund, yours sincerely,
Laura Mundella, Hon. Treasurer.

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1916	89	0	11
Received from November 13th to 18th, 1916 :—			
Subscriptions			
Mrs. Katherine Gray		5	0
Mrs. Edward Smithson ...	5	0	0
General Service Fund Donations.			
Bradford W.S.S.—Jumble Sale	16	0	0
Plymouth W.S.S.—Sale	3	18	0
Miss M. L. Hodgson		6	0
Mrs. Cunliffe	5	0	0
Miss E. L. Dunlop	5	0	0
Sunderland W.S.S., instead of Jumble Sale, collected ...	40	10	0
Received for Scottish Women's Hospital	7	2	0
	£172	1	11

The Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units in Russia.

Dr. King Atkinson writes from Zaleschiki :—"Smallpox has broken out here, and we are busy vaccinating every day. I am doing seventeen villages, and we shall probably have to vaccinate many thousands of soldiers as well. I am going to the chief of police in half-an-hour to discuss sanitary measures with him, and also to the Colonel of the Regiment.

"All goes well, and the Unit pulls splendidly—no one afraid of work. We had five slack days, the patients being greatly reduced in number, when I ferreted out smallpox in the town, and now we find they have been hiding cases in the villages." In a later wire to Miss Moberly, she asks for more nurses, saying they have opened a smallpox "barak" at Klooste, ten miles from Zaleschiki, so evidently our Unit will be very useful in combating a smallpox epidemic in that desolate country, where no other medical aid is available.

More money is urgently needed, and it is hoped that a good sum will be realised at the Stall at the United Suffragists' Christmas Sale at the Central Hall, Westminster, Saturday, December 2nd, 3 to 9. The Duchess of Marlborough, one of our Patronesses, has sent a parcel of very useful and pretty goods to be sold, and we appeal for further gifts, to reach Headquarters by December 1st.

Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units for Refugees in Russia.

FORTY-SECOND LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	9,108	19	3
Miss A. Holmes	3	3	0
Horsham W.S.S.	12	0	0
Mrs. Campbell	1	0	0
The Russo-Asiatic Bank ...	5	0	0
St. Helen's School, Blackheath, per Mrs. Elborough	1	16	9
Messrs. Waring & Gillow, Ltd.	10	10	0
Hull W.S.S. (8th collection) ...	2	3	10
Mr. Frederick Woodbridge ...		12	0
Dr. Edith E. Goodrich	2	0	0
	9,147	4	10

Further donations should be sent to the Countess of Selborne, or to Miss Sterling, N.U.W.S.S., 14 Great Smith Street, London, S.W. Cheques and Postal Orders to be crossed "London County & Westminster Bank, Victoria Branch."

LONDON UNITS OF THE N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

Last week a cable was received with an unintelligible date, to say that the London Unit had arrived safely at Odessa. On November 15th, Miss Monfries, one of the Interpreter-chauffeuses of Mrs. Haverfield's column, arrived in London after a record trip of thirteen days. She brings information of a later date than any from letters that have been received. Upon arrival at the Front, the Hospital Unit was divided, the Base being at Medjidia, and the Field Hospital some twelve miles nearer the fighting line. On the night that the Unit arrived, the rain came down in torrents (the first time for months), and the roads disappeared and became morasses. The ambulance-cars have been driven under incredibly difficult conditions throughout the whole time.

Miss Monfries, as an Interpreter, was constantly foraging for food, and seems to have had more than her share of hair-breadth escapes. At Bukarest, where she made an expedition to buy motor accessories, she came in for an air-raid of seventeen aeroplanes, and was all but bombed. There she saw poisoned toys, an unexploded bomb which had been found to be full of the most virulent germs, and a pencil which had blown off part of a man's hand.

When the order for the evacuation of Medjidia came, Dr. Inglis was still treating numberless wounded; some 2,000 passed through the Hospital after the order came, and on the last days, where possible, the wounded were taken straight to the train after being treated. The rush was so great that only the invalided members of the Unit could be spared to pack the equipment. This they managed to do in six hours—a superhuman feat—as it had taken six days to unpack. When the wounded had all been sent off in trains, Dr. Inglis found that only five bullock carts were provided to take all the equipment to the station in place of the sixty that had been promised. British determination saved the situation. By six next morning the Unit was *en route*, though foodless and sleepless, travelling in almost the last train that crossed the Tchernovado Bridge before it was destroyed. The engine-driver sighted hostile aeroplanes approaching and started across the Bridge before the time of departure was due. Miss Monfries was, as usual, foraging, and though she managed to push her companion on to the moving train, she herself was left behind, and again only just escaped being bombed. After helping to mend the railway line, in four hours she was allowed to accompany the engine-driver on a light engine to see if the Bridge would bear. Fortunately, it did, and she caught up the other train in due course.

"The Common Cause" Hut Fund (Y.W.C.A.)

We hope that all the Societies in the National Union are collecting for our Hut for women workers to be erected in connection with the Y.W.C.A. scheme.

It will cost £500,

and when erected will bear the inscription,

"Presented by Readers of 'The Common Cause.'"

Many women who would like to be working for the nation, but are unable to take any active part, will be glad to help to make the day's work easier for the women who are toiling in factories. Will our readers bring this opportunity to the notice of anyone in their district to whom it is likely to appeal, at the same time trying to interest her in our paper.

We thank the following subscribers very warmly for their kind and generous response to last week's appeal :—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	55	6	0
Mrs. Gaudell	5	0	0
Miss C. M. Glubb		5	0
Miss B. Bray		10	0
Miss A. Gardner		2	6
Mrs. Rackham	5	0	0
Miss Bellamy		5	0
Miss A. M. Wackrill		2	5
Miss B. M. Page		5	0
Mrs. Paris		2	6
Mrs. Fish		2	6
Miss Goodrich		2	0
Miss E. A. Pennington ...	1	0	0
Miss M. A. Evans		2	6
Mrs. Binns Smith	1	1	0
Mrs. Fawcett	2	0	0
Miss E. Harrington		2	6
Miss Fuller		2	6
Miss Carter		2	6
Miss O. Bode		10	0
Mrs. Hesketh		2	6
Miss D. A. Eltham		7	6
Miss B. A. Carter		5	0
Miss de Steiger		2	6
Miss Bower	1	0	0
Mrs. A. G. Pollock	1	1	0
Mrs. Oliver	1	0	0
	£76	2	6

For "The Common Cause."

We acknowledge with many thanks the following kind contributions to THE COMMON CAUSE Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	534	9	10
Miss Mackerell		1	6
Newport & District W.S.S. (Collected at Members' Meeting)		18	0
Huddersfield W.S.S.	1	0	0
Kendal W.S.S.:—Mrs. Gandy (£1), Mrs. Richardson (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Moé (2s. 6d.), Miss Farrer (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Harrison (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Jones (2s. 6d.), Miss L. Graham (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Quinn (2s. 6d.), Miss Wilson (2s.), Miss Taylor (2s.), Miss Graham (1s.), Mrs. W. Wilson (1s.), Mrs. Hargrave (1s.)	2	4	6
	£538	13	10

DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

	£	s.	d.
*Irish Ladies' Golfing Union, per Miss C. Inglis, Hon. Treas., for 2nd year of "Irish Ladies' Golfing Union" bed (Corsica)	50	0	0
*Per Chas. Taylor, Esq., Hon. Treas., Glasgow Bowling Association, Queen's Park Tennis and Bowling Club	15	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Murray Gerrard	1	0	0
Miss Dundas Grant		10	0
*Per Mrs. W. B. Croft, Hon. Treas., Winchester W.S.S. (Serbia)	5	0	0
*Per Miss B. B. Bird: Proceeds of Sale and Fancy Fair in St. Bride's School, Edinburgh, to name "St. Bride's" bed (Dr. Inglis' Unit)... ...	50	0	0
Miss C. B. Wilson	10	0	0
*Darvel Public Charities Association, per John Morton, Esq.	5	5	0
*Miss Lilias Ramsay (Dr. Inglis' Unit)	3	0	0
*Per Miss Bury: Proceeds of Lectures—Tain (£2, less expenses 6s. 6d., £1 13s. 6d.), Wick (£2 16s., less expenses 12s., £2 4s.), Lybster (£3 2s., less expenses 8s., £2 14s.) ...	6	11	6
*Per Miss Bury: Editor of *The Ensign*, Wick		2	6
*Per Miss E. Hobson, Div. Office, B.O.T., Warrington, Unemployment Insurance Women's Staff, further for bed at Royaumont	4	3	4
*Per Mrs. Mundella, Hon. Treas., Sunderland, October collection: *Workmen of Messrs. R. A. Bartram & Sons, Ltd. (£4 12s.), *Collected at 4, Belford-road: *Mrs. Common (10s.), *Mr. and Mrs. E. Common (10s.), *Miss J. Common (10s.), *Mrs. Walford Common (5s.), *A Friend (1s.), *Economies at 4, Belford-road (6s.), *Mrs. Garcia (2s. 6d.), *S. G. (5s.), *Workmen, Foremen, and Officials of Messrs. McColl & Pollock, Ltd. (£3), *Mrs. Evres (5s.), Mrs. Farquhar (2s. 6d.), *Form VI., Bede Collegiate Girls' School (2s. 6d.), *S. H. C. (3s.), *Mrs. A. Johnson (10s.), *Miss A. Hedley (2s. 6d.), *Miss M. Panton (2s. 6d.), *Mrs. A. Ritson (2s.), *Nurse Hinch (1s.), *Mrs. Oliver (1s.), Mrs. J. Patrick (5s.), *Mrs. Mundella (2s.), (£1 19s.), *Mrs. Dalrymple Smith (6s. 8d.)	12	7	2
*Per Miss Alison, Hon. Treas., Perth W.S.S.: *Staff, Kinnoull School		12	6
*Miss S. Constance E. Smith...		10	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: Employees Messrs. Thos. Lowe & Sons...	2	11	8
*Per Miss W. P. Price Heywood, Hon. Treas., Southport W.S.S.	5	0	0
Miss Yorkston	2	0	0
*Per Miss Beaumont, Hon. Treas., West Riding Fed.: Proceeds of "Lamp Day" at Wakefield to name two "Wakefield" beds (Royaumont), one bed 12 months, one bed 6 months	75	0	0
*Per Miss Harrison, Hon. Sec., Kendal W.S.S.: James Gandy, Esq.	5	0	0
*Per Miss Dunlop: Result of Bridge Party	5	15	6
Miss I. C. B. Young, per Messrs. L. & J. McLaren	1	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: *Employees Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£2 14s. 7d.), *Employees Portland Forge Co., Ltd. (£1 15s. 9d.), *Employees Messrs. M. Muir & Co. (15s. 6d.)	5	5	10
Miss E. A. Dangerfield	2	10	0
*Miss I. Paterson		10	0
E. M. and A. M. Edinburgh ...	2	0	0
Per Miss E. C. Knight, Hon. Treas., Scarborough W.S.S., to name "Scarborough" bed (Dr. Inglis' Unit) 6 months...	25	0	0
Per Commercial Bank of Scotland, London, from American Exchange National Bank, New York (Serbian Relief)	1,000	0	0
*Per Miss Alice Low: Proceeds of Edith Cavell X-Ray Car Tour, Edinburgh collection, Gate money (£23 8s. 7d.), donations (£7 16s.), post cards (£3 1s. 5d.)	34	6	0
*Per Miss MacGregor, Temporary V.A.D. Hospital, Perth, further result of Edith Cavell X-Ray Car Tour	8	3	0
Miss A. Hilda Kitson	5	0	0
*Gateshead W.S.S.: Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dunn (5s. each), per Mrs. J. T. Dunn, Hon. Treas.	10	0	
*Miss Eliz. Rae	2	6	
Proceeds of Edith Cavell X-Ray Car Tour: Aberdeen (£21 17s. 5d.), per Dr. McIntyre, Cults (£6 5s.), Peterhead (£20), Forfar (£6 16s. 10d.), Forres (£14 10s.), Elgin (£13 8s. 5d.), Dundee (£31 3s.), Kinross (£10 12s. 10d.)	124	13	6
*Further proceeds "Edith Cavell" X-Ray Car Tour—Kinross collection, per Miss Etta Shankland	12	16	6
*Proceeds of "Edith Cavell" X-Ray Car Tour at Kirkcaldy, per Miss Etta Shankland	13	10	5
*Per Mrs. Ellis: Proceeds of Whist Drive held in the Parish Hall, Ormiston, to continue "The Murrays" Bed (Royaumont)	24	0	0
*Per Miss E. Harrop, Hon. Treas., Huddersfield W.S.S.: Further towards "Emily Frances Siddon" Bed (Dr. Bennett's Unit)	7	0	0
The Misses Neil, per Miss Etta Shankland, further proceeds of X-Ray Car Tour ...		5	0
*Per Miss F. Buckley, Hon. Treas., East Grinstead W.S.S., to continue "East Grinstead W.S.S." Bed (Royaumont)—Proceeds of Sale (£25 9s. 8d.), donations (£7)	32	9	8
*Per Miss Craigie: Proceeds of sale of postcards, by Miss Beaumont		10	4
*Proceeds of "Edith Cavell" X-Ray Car Tour at Galashiels, per Miss Etta Shankland	20	12	9
*Per Mrs. Walpole (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Miss E. F. Worship	5	0	0
Employees, Messrs. David Colville & Sons, Ltd.	5	0	0
Mrs. Evershed	10	0	0
*Per Miss Harrison, Hon. Sec., Kendal W.S.S., Mrs. Ernest Jones	1	0	0
*Staff, Bruntsfield School, Edinburgh, per T. J. Robertson, Esq., Headmaster ...		15	0
Mrs. Currer		10	0
*British Women's Temperance Association, for B.W.T.A. Motor Ambulance at Royaumont, for November, per Miss Lockhart, Hon. Treas.	25	0	0
*Proceeds of "Edith Cavell" X-Ray Car Tour, collected at Stobs Camp, Sergeants' Mess (£1), Contents of Charity Box at Officers' Mess (£2), Sale of postcards and donation (£2 12s.), per Lieut. Stoddart	5	12	0
*Per Miss Bury, Women's Co-Op. Guild, Alloa, per Mrs. Kilgour, Sec.	2	3	0
*Per Miss Bury: Proceeds of meeting at Helmsdale (£2 3s., less 3s. expenses) (£2), Meeting at Brora (£4 2s., less 2s. expenses) (£4)	6	0	0
Rev. W. M. Macgregor, D.D. ...	2	0	0
Hon. Mrs. A. Gordon	5	0	0
M. K. C.		10	0
Paisley Underwood Co-op. Coal Society, per Miss Shankland (Serbia)	2	2	0
*Per Miss Kinniple: Miss McKirdy's Jumble Box ...	1	0	0
*Per Dr. McIntyre: Further proceeds "Edith Cavell" X-Ray Car Tour		3	0
*Per Miss Jean Brunton, Hon. Treas., Hawick W.S.S.: Employees of Messrs. Turner, Rutherford & Co. (£18), Employees of Messrs. Walter Wilson & Co. (£2 18s.), Proceeds of lectures (£13 3s. 9d.), Misses Hathorn & Withers collecting-box (£2 14s. 9d.), Pupils of Teviot House School (£1), Teviothead School (5s.), Staff of Drumlanrig School (£1 17s. 6d.), Staff, St. Mary's School (10s.), Y.M.C.A. Junior Branch (£1), Children's Sale of Work (£5 3s.), Friend (£1), other sums (£1 8s.) ...	50	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: *Employees Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd. (£12 17s. 4d.), *Employees Saxone Shoe Co. (£5 19s. 4d.), *Employees Messrs. Dick, Kerr & Co., Ltd. (£3 19s. 5d.), *Miss Hamilton (3s.)	22	19	1
Proceeds "Edith Cavell" X-Ray Car Tour, Hawick collection	27	8	10
Proceeds "Edith Cavell" X-Ray Car Tour (1st instalment) Greenock collection, per Miss Isabelle Kerr ...	25	0	0
*Per Miss Bury: Provost Henderson, to name "Dingwall Serbian" Bed (Dr. Bennett's Unit)	25	0	0
Per Miss May: Mrs. Hotham (Dr. McIlroy's Unit)	100	0	0
*Miss Anita Drummond, Chili, per Mrs. Aymer		10	0
Proceeds "Edith Cavell" X-Ray Car tour, Beith collection, per C. B. Ramsay, Esq.	8	16	0
*A Friend, per Mrs. Heron Maxwell, further proceeds X-Ray Car tour at Hawick		5	0
*Newcastle Committee, per Mrs Duff, Hon. Treas. ...	10	0	0
Per Miss Jean W. Patterson: C. P. G. Patterson, Esq. (£1 1s.), Mr and Mrs. R. G. Patterson (£1 1s.)	2	2	0
Mrs. R. Hughes		2	6
*Per Miss Jane H. Taylor: Falkirk Iron Works, to name "Falkirk Iron Works" Bed (Dr. Bennett's Unit)	25	0	0
Trustees of Peter Coats's Trust, per Messrs. Jas. H. Dunn & Allison	250	0	0
*Per Miss Bury: Northern Co-op. Society Ltd.	5	0	0
*Messrs. Wm. Fulton & Sons, Ltd., Employees, per Miss Etta Shankland	10	0	0
*Per E. Temple, Esq.: Boys and Masters of Glasgow Academy	2	17	6
*Per Mrs. Wood, additional to "Edith Cavell" collection at Kilmacolm		3	0
	£139,863	10	6

• Denotes further donations.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Irish Ladies' Golfing Union" (Corsica) 2nd year	Per Miss Inglis, Hon. Treas., I.L.G.U., Miramar, Cultra, Holywood, Co. Down.
"St. Bride's" (Dr. Inglis' Unit) one year	Per Miss Bird, St. Bride's School, Edinburgh, proceeds of Lecture and Fancy Sale.
"Wakefield" (2 beds) (Royaumont), 1 bed 1 year, 1 bed 6 months	Per Miss Beaumont, Hon. Treas., West Riding Federation, proceeds of Lamp Day in Wakefield.
"Scarborough" (Dr. Inglis' Unit) six months	Per Miss E. C. Knight, Hon. Treas., Scarborough W.S.S., 6, Falconer Chambers, Huntriss Row, Scarboro'.
"The Murrays" (Royaumont) further 6 months	Per Mrs. Ellis, The Murrays, Ormiston, East Lothian.
"East Grinstead W.S.S." (Royaumont) further 6 months	Per Miss F. Buckley, Hon. Treas., East Grinstead W.S.S., The Grange, Crawley Down.
"Hawick" (2 beds) (Royaumont) further 6 months, (Corsica) further 6 months	Per Miss Jean Brunton, Hon. Treas., Hawick W.S.S., 20, Teviot-road, Hawick.
"Dingwall Serbian" (Dr. Bennett's Unit) 6 months	Per Miss Bury, Provost Henderson, Town House, Dingwall.
"Falkirk Iron Works" (Dr. Bennett's Unit) 6 months	Falkirk Iron Works, per Miss Jane H. Taylor, Old West Manse, Falkirk, President, Falkirk W.S.S.

Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, begs once more to thank all those who have helped, and are helping, and will gratefully receive further donations to help to carry on the work. Cheques should be sent either to Headquarters, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or to Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock, and crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

Mrs. Laurie would again bring before the notice of the many friends of the Hospitals the urgent need for further assistance. The demands upon our resources are very great at the present time. The severe fighting on the Serbian frontier will entail our Units being kept up to their full strength, and the additional beds at Abbaye de Royaumont and in the Girton and Newnham Unit mean much larger staffs required.

Motor cars, ambulances, and lorries are also urgently needed.

THE EDITH CAVELL X-RAY WAGON.

(Presented to the Scottish Women's Hospitals by the Citizens of Glasgow).

Will visit the following towns, when demonstrations of the X-Ray apparatus will be given:—

STRANRAER.—Monday, November 27th. Public meeting. 3 o'clock. Drill Hall. The Right Hon. The Countess of Stair presiding. Speaker, Miss E. M. C. Foggo, on "Scottish Women's Hospitals."

GLENLUCE AND KIRKCOWAN.—Tuesday, November 28th. Demonstrations

WIGTOWN.—Wednesday, November 29th. Demonstrations.

NEWTON STEWART.—Thursday, November 30th. Demonstrations.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT.—Friday, December 1st. Public meeting, at 3 o'clock. Drill Hall. The Right Hon. The Countess of Selkirk presiding. Also at 8 o'clock, John Wilkinson, Esq., presiding. X-Ray Demonstrations.

DALBEATTIE.—Saturday, December 2nd. Demonstrations.

CASTLE DOUGLAS.—Monday, December 4th Demonstrations.

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Protects the hands and reaches every nook and corner

ANTI-SEPTIC, ABSORBING, POLISHING

Use dry and when dirty wash in clean warm water, and use again. 2/4 post free

Will last twelve months

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THE TONIC NERVE FOOD.

An Invigorating Nutrient for BRAIN FAG, DEPRESSION, LASSITUDE.

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James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd.
MANCHESTER.

DELICIOUS FRENCH COFFEE.

RED WHITE & BLUE

For Breakfast & after Dinner.

In making, use LESS QUANTITY, it being so much stronger than ORDINARY COFFEE.

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GOWNS from 36/11 "Finlay" made-to-measure Gowns. Can be increased 4 to 14 in. without losing their shape.

SKIRTS from 12/11 Promotes health. Adjustantly increased 4 to 14 in. Tailor-made to measure by experts in latest materials.

(Combined) MATERNITY and NURSING CORSET, 12/11
Most Hygienic and serviceable. Recommended by medical men.
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Money returned if not delighted.
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Robinson's Nurses' Aprons and Requisites are guaranteed to be of the best materials only; perfect shape and fit, they are the result of many years' experiences. Send for Booklet number C, post free.

Nurses' Aprons, round and square bib, gored or gathered, with Red Cross or without, 1/11, 2/6, 2/11 each.
Nurses' Ambulance Overalls, 6/6 each.
Nurses' Collars, 5½d, 6½d, 7½d. Cuffs, 6½d, 8½d.
Nurses' Strings, 2½ inches wide, 8½d, 10½d, 1/- pair.
Nurses' Sister Dora Caps, 8½d, 10½d, 1/- each.
Household and Fancy Linens in great variety.
500 dozen Ladies' Linen H.S. Handkerchiefs, 2/6 half-dozen.

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What Some of our Societies are Doing.

GLASGOW.

Speaking "Tour" Undertaken by Lady Frances Balfour.

The Glasgow and the West of Scotland W.S.S. Joint Committee for the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service was grateful when Lady Frances Balfour agreed to speak on the Scottish Women's Hospitals in November. Beginning with a very successful meeting and sale, organised by Mrs. Patrick Stirling and Miss Barclay, of Clippens, at Johnstone, when Mrs. Cuninghame, of Craigends, presided, and Sir Thomas Glen Coates also spoke, and resulting in the sum of £234 10s. 5d. Lady Frances Balfour went next day to Barrhead, to address a meeting given by Major and Mrs. Pollok, Curlibar. Baillie Shanks presided, and at the close, skilfully formed a Barrhead Committee of some thirty ladies, willing to work from time to time for the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Lanark on November 6th, held a Hall Meeting, presided over by Mrs. Douglas, of Auchlochan, and organised by Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Alston. Sheriff Scott Moncrieff also spoke, and Nurse Upton (returned on leave from Salonica). Result, £22 13s.

At Motherwell, Mrs. Jackson, member of the Glasgow S.W.H. Committee, in spite of the very recent work for the S.W.H. Funds, with Mrs. Wilson, organised a Hall Meeting, Mrs. Wilson receiving all the guests, and providing tea before the address. Slides by Miss Foggo. Lady Hamilton, of Dalzell, presided. Dr. Robertson and others spoke. Collection, £11.

In Cambuslang, a Hall Meeting was organised by Mrs. Brown, Ashfield, and friends, who, from the first, have shown much interest in the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Andrew Clarke, Esq., The Cairns, took the Chair; the Rev. Mr. Calderwood also spoke. Slides of the work of the Hospitals were shown. Result, £18.

Next day, Lady Frances Balfour went to Ayr to address a Hall Meeting, very full and enthusiastic, organised by Miss McCulloch and Mrs. Abbott and others. Mrs. Strain, Cassilis House, presided, and the Rev. Mr. Taylor spoke. Collection, £20.

The last of the meetings was held in the Town Hall, Newton Stewart, organised by Miss Murray Dunlop, Corvisel. Arthur Armitage, Esq., of Kirroughtree, occupied the chair. Lady Gallowy also spoke. Mrs. Arthur Armitage and others were present on the platform. Slides were shown. Collection, £12 15s.

Sales in Shops of Flowers, Fruit, and Game, Etc.

These sales, organised by the Glasgow Committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, in four of the principal warehouses of Glasgow, have proved an unqualified success. Lady Dunlop, wife of the Lord Provost of Glasgow, and Mrs. Fred Stephen acted as conveners, and with the help of many other ladies, well-known in Glasgow for their organising capacities, every advantage was taken of the kindness of those firms who so readily lent their premises for the sales, and also greatly reduced the work of the stall holders in giving help of all descriptions, from excellent advertisement of the sales in the papers to the delivery of all goods by their vans.

The Pioneer Sale, lasting three days, took place in Messrs. Copland and Lye's, Stuchiehall-street, and was in charge of Lady Dunlop, Lady Mason, and Mrs. Speirs. Flowers, fruit, sweets, and game, were quickly disposed of, as was also a pretty green parrot presented to the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Nothing came amiss that could be turned into coin of the realm for the use of our hospitals. Two pictures, presented by Mr. William Ogg, of the firm, are now up for sale in our office, 202, Hope-street, to increase the funds.

The result of the first sale was £211 15s. 6d.

The following week the sale was held in Messrs. McDonald's, Ltd, Buchanan-street, Lady MacAlister, The University, with Mrs. Latta and Mrs. Fred Stephen, were in charge, helped by the members of the W.S. College Committee. Lady MacAlister opened the sale, when Professor Munro Kerr spoke of the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. In spite of the most cheerless kind of weather for fruit and flowers, this sale realised £253 11s. 6d.

On November 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, Messrs. Pettigrew and Stephens, Sauchiehall-street, lent a beautiful and recently-decorated part of their premises. Lady Arthur of Fullerton opened the first day's sale. The following days were opened respectively by Mrs. Cuninghame, Craigends, and Mrs. Hedderwick. Mrs. D. H. L. Young undertook this sale, with Mrs. Peter Rintoul, and Mrs. W. S. McLellan, Cardross. The result realised £384

The fourth and last sale took place in the Royal Polytechnic, and was in charge of Mrs. John T. Cargill, Mrs. Cuthbert Stewart, Mrs. Robertson, and Miss Lander, and the members of the Women's Volunteer Reserve. The warehouse was beautifully decorated and arranged. Lady Frances Balfour opened the first day's sale, resulting in the splendid sum of over £500. The following days were opened by Lady Ure Primrose, and the third day by Mrs. McCowan, and amounted to £725 8s. 2d.

Different members of the Committee were kept busy each sale day in the flower depôts, where the members of the W.V.R. worked most unselfishly, doing anything required of them with ready will, unpacking, sorting, and carrying the gifts over to the sales.

Total of the sales amounts to £1,574 15s. 2d.

The Committee is now preparing to take the Edith Cavell Car (presented to the Scottish Women's Hospitals by the citizens of Glasgow) to certain towns in its area, as a means of rousing interest and raising funds—the tour to begin towards the end of November.

E. M. C. Foggo, Organiser.

West Riding Federation.

Bingley.—On October 2nd the Bingley branch of the N.U.W.S.S. held its monthly meeting in the Adult Schoolroom, Regent-street. Miss Morton presided, and Miss Geraldine Cooke gave a most thoughtful and earnest address on "The Future Prospects of the Suffrage." Miss Cooke urged all members to work as strenuously as ever, and not to put too much faith in the fact that women have *earned* the vote. She said that there was a strong feeling of sympathy throughout the country for Women's Suffrage. The meeting was well attended, and the address was much appreciated. Four new members were enrolled.

Huddersfield.—A committee meeting was held at 41, Spring-street, of the Huddersfield branch. Miss Siddon, and later Mrs. Rennards, presided. Mrs. Studdard read the correspondence, chief among which was a letter from the committee of the Scottish Women's Hospital. It said that £6,900 per month would be required to keep the hospitals going this winter. The hospitals are entirely run and staffed by women. Dr. Lilian Chesney, who spoke of her work in Serbia at the annual meeting in May, is now in the Dobrudja. Mrs. Harrop gave the report and balance-sheet of the rummage sale, and the sub-committee suggested that the £26 16s. 11d. which it had cleared should be apportioned as follows:—£10 to the National Union, £8 to the Russian Maternity Unit, £7 to the Scottish Women's Hospitals for the Emily Frances Sidden bed, and £1 to the Common Cause Fund, the balance to go to the Weekly Sewing Meeting Committee. Mrs. Arthur Green gave afternoon tea for the sewing meeting funds.

Sheffield.—A reception was held at Nether Lecture Hall on October 17th, when all members were invited to hear an address on the present position of Suffrage, by the President of the branch (Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher), which was listened to with great interest. There was a very good attendance of members, and tea, music, and recitations helped to make the gathering a pleasant opening for our winter's work.

On Tuesday, November 7th, an American tea was held, by kind invitation of Mrs. Black, at Dunedin, Riverdale-road, on behalf of the general fund. In spite of unfavourable weather and the very moderate amount asked of each visitor, the response was excellent, nearly £10 being realised. Conspicuous among the goods displayed for sale were two beautiful Persian kittens, the contribution of the President, and these lent variety to the proceedings by disappearing at intervals and necessitating an agonised hunt! Further attractions were an excellent tea, musical selections from a fine gramophone, and—last but not least—a brief

address from Mrs. Fisher. Our warmest thanks are due to Mrs. Black for her hospitality and kindness, and to all the friends who gave and bought so generously.

Kentish Federation.

The RAMSGATE BRANCH held a very successful meeting at the Congregational Hall in the afternoon of Thursday, Nov. 9th, when Mrs. Henry Fawcett gave an interesting address on "The Status of Women after the War."

There was a large attendance of members and friends and of many others who had never before seen at a suffrage meeting.

The Chairman (M. J. Poole, Esq., J.P.) made an able speech in introducing Mrs. Fawcett, and he was supported on the platform by Mrs. Poole, Mrs. Sale, and Miss Chaning Pearce (vice-presidents), Mrs. E. R. Dunn (ex-Mayoress), Mr. J. Soans, Councillor Cook, and Miss Green.

Mrs. Fawcett reviewed the history of the National Union from its earliest beginning to the present time. She spoke of its many activities for war relief, and especially of the work of the Scottish Women's Hospital Units, which were playing such a noble part in caring for the wounded soldiers of our allies in France and Serbia and Russia. She claimed that the woman's movement was one of the greatest movements the world had ever seen, and urged the Ramsgate Society to make still greater efforts to bring about the objects for which it stands.

Short speeches were made by Mrs. Dunn and Mr. Soans in proposing and seconding votes of thanks to Mrs. Fawcett.

After the speeches the little pupils of Miss Collins delighted the audience by a short display of dances in the national costumes of the allies, and the proceedings concluded with a social meeting and tea.

COMMON CAUSES and literature were sold, and a collection of £4 16s. was taken towards defraying expenses.

Ten new members joined, and many others expressed sympathy with the aims of the National Union.

GATESHEAD.—The Gateshead Society held a successful jumble sale on Saturday, October 14th, which realised £11 18s. 6d. After deducting expenses, £10 7s. remained, which was sent to the funds of the N.U.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The Southampton Society has been making a special effort in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospital Fund. On Wednesday afternoon, November 8th, a very interesting Lecture was given at the Temperance Institute by Miss Marian Nicolls on her experiences in Malta, Serbia, and as a prisoner of war in Austria. Miss Nicolls was a member of Dr. Alice Hutchinson's Hospital Unit. The hall was well filled with a very appreciative audience, and a good collection was taken. The Serbian National Anthem was sung by girls from the Grammar School. On Saturday evening half a dozen slides, illustrating the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals were shown on the screen at the Portswood Picture Palace. Miss Nicolls gave a ten minutes' address, and a collection was taken. This was repeated later in the evening, with the really splendid result of adding £7—half of which was in coppers—to the fund. The total amount collected during the week was £12.

Forthcoming Meetings.

NOVEMBER 24.

Glasgow—The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Glasgow Social Society, in Charing Cross Halls—Colonel John Denning presiding—Councillor Eleanor Rathbone will give an address on The Present Political Situation in Regard to the Franchise 4.0

Hastings—At 5, Havelock Road—Speaker, Mrs. Robie Uniacke — Subject: Women's Trade Unions 5.0

Hastings—At 5, Havelock Road—Speaker, Mrs. Robie Uniacke—Subject: Women's Opportunity 7.45

Southampton—At Hazelhurst, Hulse Road, and every Friday — Working Party for Serbian Refugees—Hostess, Mrs. Farquharson 3.0

NOVEMBER 25.

Paddington—Suffrage Talk to Members—Speaker: Mrs. Alys Russell—Hostess: The Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves—20, Craven Terrace, Lancaster Gate 3.30

NOVEMBER 27.

Birmingham—Holyhead Co-operative Guild—Miss Cooper 7.30

Portsmouth—At the Town Hall—Speakers: Mrs. Elborough and Mrs. Russell—Chair: Countess of Selborne—Meeting in aid of Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units 3.0

NOVEMBER 28.

Brighton—Union Church Institute—Mrs. Robie Uniacke, on Women's Opportunity 8.0

Caxton Hall—L.S.W.S Annual Meeting—Speaker: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.—Chair: The Lady Frances Balfour—At Home to Members 3.45—5.30

Maidenhead — Meeting Suffrage Society—Speaker: Mrs. Alys Russell 3.0

NOVEMBER 29.

Wokingham—Public Meeting, Town Hall—Chair: Major Adam—Speakers: Mrs. Cooper, Miss Margaret Jones 8.0

Bristol—Working Party, at 40, Park Street 2.45

NOVEMBER 30.

Hove — Drawing-room Meeting — Hostess: Mrs. D'Albiac—62, Denmark Villas—Speaker: Mrs. Robie Uniacke 2.30

Stevenage—Local Committee Annual Meeting, in Smale Public Hall—Speaker: Mrs. Renton, on The Political Situation 3.30

DECEMBER 1.

Hastings—At 5, Havelock Road—Speakers: Miss Willis, Miss Sidney, Mrs. Arthur Strickland—Subject: Women's Work in the Church 5.0

DECEMBER 4.

Hulme—Suffrage Club—Jumble Sale—Contributions should be sent to 16, Deansgate, Manchester.

Wellingborough—Drawing-room Meeting, by kind permission of Mrs. T. Gravely, at Lotherside, Hatton Park—Speaker: Miss Maude Royden—Subject: Women's Share in the Reconstruction of the Nation

DECEMBER 6.

Ascot—Sale of Work, in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospital—French and Serbian Beds—Admission 6d. 2.30

DECEMBER 8.

Hastings—At 5, Havelock Road—Speaker: Mrs. Strickland—Subject: Women's Work in National Government 5.0

Members and friends are cordially invited to attend any of these meetings without special invitation.

Women Workers' Series.—No. 1.

A cup of Rowntree's Elect Cocoa makes a biscuit into a meal

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-street, Piccadilly, W. November 29th, 8 p.m. "Women and the Church," The Right Revd. The Bishop of Kensington. Chairman, Miss Maude Royden.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN SUFFRAGE.—Public Meeting in the N.C.S. Hall, Park Mansions' Arcade, Knightsbridge, S.W., on Tuesday, November 28th, at 3 p.m.—"The Mother and the Child in Lands where Women Vote," Miss Margaret Hodge. Admission Free.

HELP WANTED.

WILL LADY ADOPT fine healthy boy, eight months old? Refined mother; very unfortunate circumstances. Child will be quite surrendered. Full particulars given on application to Box 6,330, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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WOMEN'S NATIONAL LAND SERVICE CORPS.—Wanted, educated women, between 18 and 35, to fill vacancies in training farms. Some free trainings. Imperative that women should be trained to replace the men called up for January 1st. Great shortage of milkers and carters now.—Apply, 50, Upper Baker-street, N.W.

POSITIONS VACANT.

WANTED, two ladies, competent to undertake the duties of cook and house-parlourmaid for two ladies; in country, but near station and shops. Good plain cooking required, but no elaborate meals.—For further particulars, apply Box 3,102, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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Demonstrations every Tuesday, 11.30 to 1.

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Continued from page 427.

FOR PRESENTS.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS & CARDS
Useful and Inexpensive Presents in Hand-weavings, Metal-work, Hand Wrought Jewellery, Pottery, &c., are now on sale at THE HANDICRAFTS, 82, High Street, Hampstead, and 56, Lymington Road, Finchley Road, N.W.

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THE WAR-TIME Carpenter and House Decorator.—Electrical and all odd-job repairs undertaken.—32, Beaufort-st., Chelsea, S.W. 'Phone: 4707 (messages taken).

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